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*A Treatise on Special Subjects of the Law of Real Property.* By Alfred G. Reeves, Professor of Law in the New York Law School. Little, Brown and Company, Boston. 1904. 1 vol., sheep, pp. lxxv and 913.

This is the first of two volumes in which the author intends to give the profession and the student a new treatise upon the law of real property. His aim as expressed in the preface is set forth in a work of convenient size for students and lawyers "the common law of real property, as it is to-day, developed with the aid of the old landmarks of legislation into a system of rounded symmetry and logical beauty, together with the accompanying typical code of one important State"—New York. Students of the law, particularly those in Professor Reeves's classes, would seem to be those for whom this volume is particularly intended; and for them it seems to us admirably adapted. The most prominent characteristic of the book to the reviewer is its clearness and simplicity of statement and arrangement. The whole subject is admirably summarized in the Outline in Chapter IV and in the tabulated summary at the conclusion of that chapter. As an instance of the clear and skillful treatment of an abstruse subject which is often a source of perplexity and confusion to the student we would mention especially Chapter XIX, on the origin and development of the use. The provisions of the New York Real Property Law, which are incorporated in their appropriate chapters in the text, serve to make the book, as the author intended it, "a practically complete treatise on New York real property law," and so especially valuable to New York students, but they do not prevent it from being at the same time one of the best text-books on the particular branches of the law of real property which it treats. The authorities cited seem to have been selected with care and with an aim to secure quality rather than quantity, a most commendable object in the case of a branch of the law so overburdened with authorities as that of real property. The more recent cases are cited in preference to the older ones, a practice which we approve in respect to any subject which like this one is constantly undergoing slight but important changes. Taking the book as a whole, we do not hesitate to recommend it to the student as an admirably clear and careful—though, it may be, somewhat elementary—treatise upon some of the more important branches of the law of real property, and to the general practitioner, but more especially the New York lawyer, as a valuable commentary on the real property law of that State. C. B.

*Law in Daily Life.* Translated from the German of Rud von Jhering by Henry Goudy, D.C.L. Clarendon Press, Oxford, 1904. Cloth, pp. 169.

Professor Von Jhering has by this work contributed a highly original method of treating the study of law. It consists of a great number of pointed questions dealing with the most ordinary

affairs of life, principally in the subjects of possession, delict and contract. The minutest details of daily life are examined and their legal consequences brought out. The questions demand close thought and a wide range of study, and the whole work is a product of remarkable ingenuity and skill. The book, however, would seem better suited to the original purpose of the author—for scholars at the German universities—than to the ordinary American student, at least, the questions being highly theoretical and based to a great extent on the Roman jurisprudence—a thing, however, to be expected in the work of a great Romanist. However, as the translator says, “the book may be of interest as showing to what delicate legal problems the simplest facts of everyday life may give rise.” In Germany and other continental countries the work has run through many editions, but this is the first attempt to reproduce it in English. The translator, Professor Goudy of Oxford, has appended a number of original questions of the same general nature as those of the author. To the student of jurisprudence, the great names of both author and translator will commend the work.

R. H. S.

*Chancery Practice.* By John G. Henderson, LL.D. T. H. Flood & Co., Chicago. 1904. Sheep, pp. 1170.

The first one hundred and fifty pages of this work embody an account of the origin and early history of the Court of Chancery that is more than ordinarily interesting. They serve as an introduction to a treatise, not mainly on the general practice in Chancery, but rather on that practice as it directly concerns references to masters and others of like authority. The nature of their office and their powers, the manner of reference to them, the hearing before them, their report, and the subsequent proceedings in regard to it, sales by them, and the assessment of fees are fully discussed. Decisions are freely quoted, and the rules and statutory provisions of the various jurisdictions are adverted to at length, and forms are liberally scattered throughout the text. Its rather colloquial style, its constant repetitions, its lengthy quotations, its digressions from the immediate matter at issue to treat of principles common to all branches of the law, if more appropriate to the lecture platform than the text-book, yet serve to enforce and round out the statements of the author. The work well fills a vacancy in the field of legal authority.

W. M. M.

*Text-Book of the Patent Law of the United States.* By Albert H. Walker. Fourth Edition. Baker, Voorhis and Co., New York. 1904. Sheep, pp. 775.

In 1897, Judge Gilbert construed the opinion of the Supreme Court of the United States in *Coupe v. Royer*, 155 U. S. 581 (1895),